

### **HEARING AID SYSTEM**

# CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims priority to United States Provisional Patent Application Number 60/445,034, filed February 5, 2003, United States Provisional Patent Application Number 60/514,994, filed October 27, 2003, and United States Provisional Patent Application Number 60/535,569, filed January 9, 2004, the entire contents of which are specifically incorporated herein by reference.

### BACKGROUND

- [02] A wide variety of hearing aid units are known in the art. Insertion of hearing aid receivers in the ear produces an insertion loss, which reflects a distortion or elimination of the patient's natural or original concha and ear canal resonant characteristics. The presently described hearing aid is configured to eliminate or significantly reduce such insertion losses.
- [03] In some hearing aids, the receiver is also positioned within the ear canal in such a way that it creates an occlusion effect. In most cases, whether the hearing aid is fitted in the ear, as with a custom made instrument, or is placed behind the ear, an occlusion problem exists.
- [04] This is often related to a patient's rejection of the amplification due to the patient's discomfort with the patient's own voice. That is, the occlusion effect is associated with the sensation or feeling that the patient's head is "at the bottom of the barrel," with the patient's own voice becoming intolerably loud.
- [05] Placing an earmold or a shell of a custom made hearing aid within the ear canal can

produce a low frequency amplification of the patient's voice of between about 20 and 30 decibels. This can relate to a perceived loudness increase in the patient's own voice of about four times the actual loudness of the patient's voice.

- [06] Accordingly, there remains a need in the art for an ear canal receiver that avoids the insertion loss and occlusion effect problems described above.
- [07] One aspect of the present disclosure also relates to an improved system for treating tinnitus.

### **SUMMARY**

- [08] The above-discussed and other drawbacks and deficiencies of the prior art are overcome or alleviated by the presently described hearing aid system, including a receiver configured so as to create an insertion loss over the audible range of hearing below about three decibels as compared to the unaided ear.
- [09] In another embodiment, a micro-receiver positioned in an open-ear configuration within the ear canal of a user, and a sound processing unit provided remote from the micro-receiver.

  The described hearing aid advantageously reduces the insertion and occlusion effects.
- [10] In one exemplary embodiment, the receiver has a maximum lateral dimension  $\varnothing$ . Such dimension describes the maximum overall dimension or diameter (though it is not to be implied that the cross section of the receiver must be circular or oval) of the receiver. In one exemplary embodiment, the receiver has a dimension  $\varnothing$  that is less than half the maximum lateral dimension or diameter of the user's ear canal. In another embodiment, the receiver has a dimension  $\varnothing$  that is less than twenty percent of the maximum lateral dimension or diameter of the user's ear canal.

In another embodiment, the receiver has a dimension  $\varnothing$  that is less than ten percent of the maximum lateral dimension or diameter of the user's ear canal. In another embodiment, the receiver has a dimension  $\varnothing$  that is less than five percent of the maximum lateral dimension or diameter of the user's ear canal.

- [11] In another exemplary embodiment, the hearing aid comprises a sound processing unit, a receiver, and an intermediate connecting portion between the sound processing unit and the receiver, wherein the intermediate connecting portion comprises an electrical conducting component and a stiffening wire, provided on at least a portion of the intermediate connecting portion. In another exemplary embodiment, the stiffening wire comprises a stainless steel wire. In another exemplary embodiment, the stiffening wire comprises a metal or alloy of metals having memory such that the wire may deflect and return to an original orientation. Such may be stainless steel, among others. Such may also be a shape memory alloy.
- [12] In another exemplary embodiment, the stiffening wire is provided within or on a portion of the intermediate connecting portion and extends within or on at least a portion of the receiver. In such embodiment, the receiver is positioned on the intermediate connecting portion with greater stability and resiliency. Also where a stiffening element is used, the intermediate connecting portion and receiver may be custom manufactured or custom molded to optimize positioning of the receiver within the ear canal and/or to optimize positioning of the intermediate connecting portion.
- [13] In another embodiment, a retaining wire extends from one of the stiffening wire and the receiver. The retaining wire is configured to position within a portion of the concha of the ear. In such embodiment, the retaining wire may be configured to prevent excessive insertion of the

hearing aid receiver into the ear canal. Also, the retaining wire may be configured to cause the hearing aid receiver to be suspended within a portion of the ear canal, such that no portion of the receiver touches the sides of the ear canal.

- [14] In another embodiment, the electrical conducting component comprises two wires within distinct channels or otherwise isolated from one another within the intermediate connecting portion. In another embodiment, a stiffening element is provided within or on the intermediate connecting portion within a distinct channel or otherwise isolated from the wires.
- [15] In another embodiment, the receiver comprises a speaker, at least partially enclosed within a casing having first and second end portions, the first end portion communicating with the intermediate connecting portion, the speaker communicating with a port provided at the second end portion of the casing. In another embodiment, the casing is sealed to fluids at the first end portion and along a length of the casing extending from the first end portion to the port provided at the second end portion. The port may also be sealed to fluids by a membrane or mesh material.
- [16] The above-discussed and other features and advantages of the present invention will be appreciated and understood by those skilled in the art from the following detailed description and drawings.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- [17] Referring now to the exemplary drawings wherein like elements are numbered alike in the several FIGURES:
- [18] FIGURE 1 is a diagrammatic view of an exemplary receiver, intermediate connecting

portion and sound processing component connector for a hearing aid system;

- [19] FIGURE 2 is a cross sectional view of an exemplary receiver and intermediate connecting portion;
- [20] FIGURE 3 is an expanded plan view of an exemplary receiver, intermediate connecting portion and sound processing component connector for a hearing aid system;
- [21] FIGURE 4 is a plan view of an exemplary assembled hearing aid system including a retaining wire;
- [22] FIGURE 5 is a cutaway view of a user's ear with the hearing aid system installed;
- [23] FIGURE 6 is a plan view of an exemplary sound processing unit; and
- [24] FIGURE 7 is a plan view of another exemplary sound processing unit.

### **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

[25] Referring now to FIGURE 1, an exemplary receiver and connection portion is illustrated generally at 10 for the presently described hearing aid system. In one exemplary embodiment, the hearing aid system is configured as a completely open canal (COC) system. With reference to FIGURE 1, the illustrated exemplary receiver portion, shown generally at 12, includes a speaker 14 that is at least partially surrounded by a casing 16. The receiver portion 12 is attached to a connection portion, shown generally at 18, which includes an intermediate connecting portion 20 and a sound processing component connector 22. The sound processing unit connector 22 includes an electrical interface 24 configured to mate with a corresponding electrical interface (not illustrated) on the sound processing unit. The illustrated electrical interface 24 is a three-pin female interface, surrounded by a connector shell 26. While shell 26 is

illustrated as a two part shell joined by lock pin 28, it should be recognized that shell 26 may take any convenient configuration, or the interface 24 may simply comprise the electrical interface 24 such that the shell 26 is of minimal profile or is eliminated. Optionally, a microphone 27 may be provided in the shell 26. The microphone 27 may be connected to the sound-processing unit through an additional electrical connection (not shown) or through the electrical interface 24.

- [26] Referring now to FIGURE 2, the exemplary receiver 12 and intermediate connecting portion 20 are illustrated in greater detail. The speaker 14 is illustrated as being at least partially enclosed within the casing 16. The illustrated exemplary intermediate connecting portion 20 comprises an electrical conducting component 30 and a stiffening wire 32, provided along at least a portion of the intermediate connecting portion 20. In another exemplary embodiment, the stiffening wire 32 comprises a stainless steel wire. In another exemplary embodiment, the stiffening wire 32 comprises a metal or alloy of metals having memory such that the wire may deflect and return to an original orientation. For example, the stiffening wire 32 may be a shape memory alloy.
- Referring again to FIGURE 2, the illustrated exemplary stiffening wire 32 is provided within or on a portion of the intermediate connecting portion 20 and extends within or on at least a portion of the receiver 12. The stiffening wire 32 in the illustrated exemplary embodiment extends through a channel 34 in the intermediate connecting portion 20, into a proximal portion 36 of the receiver 12 and alongside the speaker 14. In such embodiment, and indeed whenever the stiffening wire is used in or on any portion of the receiver 12 and the intermediate connecting portion 20, the receiver 12 may be positioned relative to the intermediate connecting portion 20

with greater stability and resiliency. Also where a stiffening wire 32 is used, the intermediate connecting portion 20 and receiver 12 may be custom manufactured or custom molded to optimize positioning of the receiver 12 within the ear canal and/or to optimize positioning of the intermediate connecting portion 20.

- [28] Referring again to FIGURE 2, the illustrated electrical conducting component 30 is provided within a channel 38 within the intermediate connecting portion 20. The electrical conducting component 30 extends from the speaker 14 through the intermediate connecting component 20 to the electrical interface 24 to provide electrical connection between the sound processing unit and the speaker 14.
- [29] With reference to FIGURE 3, in an exemplary embodiment, the electrical conducting component 30 comprises two wires 40, 42 provided within channel 38. While this embodiment illustrates both wires 40, 42 provided within the same channel 38, it is to be recognized that alternative configurations are contemplated. For example, both wires 40, 42 may share the same channel as the stiffening wire 32. Also, each wire 40, 42 may be provided within distinct channels or may be otherwise isolated from one another within the connection.
- [30] Referring again to FIGURE 2, the illustrated exemplary receiver casing has first (proximal) 36 and second (distal) 44 end portions, the first end portion communicating with the intermediate connecting portion 20, the speaker 14 communicating with a port 46 provided at the second end portion 44 of the casing 16. As described by the illustrated exemplary embodiment, the casing is provided around the speaker from the intermediate connecting portion 20 to the port 46. Where non-permeable materials are used for the casing 16, the casing 16 is sealed to fluids at the first end portion 36 and along a length of the casing 16 extending from the first end portion

36 to the port 46 provided at the second end portion 44. As illustrated, the port 46 may itself be sealed to fluids by a membrane or mesh material 48. The materials used for the casing may be formed in any number of manners, including as a two shell assembly, as an overmold, or as a shrinkwrap. Any material may be used. In one exemplary embodiment, the material is a polypropylene. In another embodiment, the material is a nylon or polyethylene. The port may also be provided with a permanent or removable cerumen collection device.

- [31] Referring again to FIGURE 2, the receiver has a maximum lateral dimension  $\varnothing$ . Such dimension describes the maximum overall dimension or diameter (though it is not to be implied that the cross section of the receiver must be circular or oval) of the receiver 16. In one exemplary embodiment, the receiver has a dimension  $\varnothing$  that is less than half the maximum lateral dimension or diameter of the user's ear canal. In another embodiment, the receiver has a dimension  $\varnothing$  that is less than twenty percent of the maximum lateral dimension or diameter of the user's ear canal. In another embodiment, the receiver has a dimension  $\varnothing$  that is less than ten percent of the maximum lateral dimension or diameter of the user's ear canal. In another embodiment, the receiver has a dimension  $\varnothing$  that is less than five percent of the maximum lateral dimension or diameter of the user's ear canal.
- [32] Referring now to FIGURE 4, a second exemplary hearing aid system is illustrated generally at 50. The receiver 16, intermediate connecting portion 20 and sound processing unit 52 are illustrated in assembled form. Sound processing component connector 22 is illustrated as joined with the sound processing unit 52. As illustrated, an exemplary retaining wire 54 extends from the receiver 16. As illustrated by FIGURE 5, the retaining wire 54 is configured to position within a portion of the concha 56 of the ear, shown generally at 58. In such embodiment, the

retaining wire 54 may be configured to define an exemplary maximum insertion of the hearing aid receiver 16 into the ear canal 60. For example, the configuration of the retaining wire 54, receiver 16 and intermediate connecting portion 20 may be such that the receiver extends into the ear canal, but not into the bony regions 62 of the ear canal 60. Also, as illustrated in FIGURE 5, the retaining wire 54 may be configured to cause the hearing aid receiver 16 to be suspended within a portion of the ear canal 60, such that no portion of the receiver touches the sides of the ear canal 60. While the retaining wire 54 is illustrated as extending from the receiver 16, it should be recognized that the retaining wire 54 may also or alternatively extend from the intermediate connecting portion 20.

[33] Referring now to FIGURE 6, an exemplary sound processing unit (SPU) is illustrated generally at 52. The illustrated SPU 52 generally includes: a housing 64; an SPU electrical interface 66, which is illustrated as a male three-pin electrical connection, connected to an amplifier and sound processing component 68; a microphone 70 connected to the amplifier and sound processing component 68; a battery component 72 providing power to the amplifier and sound processing component 68; a switch component 74, illustrated with a push button 76 for providing a user interface with the amplifier and sound processing component 68 and/or the battery component 72; and a programming connector 78 configured to permit external programming and reprogramming of the SPU and/or to permit expansion of the hearing aid device with additional internal components. A programming correction switch 79 may be provided to permit a physician or user to control programming or reprogramming of the amplifier and sound processing component 68. Additionally, an input port (not shown) may be provided proximate thereto (or indeed, anywhere on the device) to effect programming or

reprogramming of the device from an external source. Memory storage may be provided within the amplifier and sound processing component 68 and/or anywhere within the device to permit such programming and reprogramming of the SPU and/or to permit a user to select various programs via the user interface.

- [34] FIGURE 7 illustrates a second exemplary SPU configuration, wherein the amplifier and sound processing component 68 is provided as a circuit board interconnecting each of the battery component 72, the switch component 74, the microphone 70 and the SPU electrical interface 66. In another exemplary embodiment, the behind the ear unit may comprise, or may additionally include, a noise generator, which may be used to generate one or more sounds. The sounds may be generated in specific frequency ranges useful to treat tinnitus. The noise generator passes such signals to the receiver for treatment.
- [35] The following table summarizes statistical analysis of data collected in the comparison of four hearing devices (G = General Hearing Instruments, O = Oticon, S = Sebotek and V = Vivatone). The tested Vivatone Device was configured in accordance with the above described embodiment(s) including the micro-receiver and the retaining wire. The Vivatone Device also was positioned within the cartilaginous region of the ear in such a manner that the receiver did not contact the walls of the ear canal.
- [36] The tested General Hearing Instruments was a canal-open-ear Auriscoe ™ hearing aid. The tested Oticon Device was a low profile, Open Ear Acoustics ™ configuration. The tested Sebotek Device was the PAC (Post Auricular Canal) hearing aid also described by U.S. Patent No. 5,606,621 to Reiter, the entire contents of which are specifically incorporated herein by reference.

- [37] Thirty subjects participated in the evaluation. There were 120 runs, 4 for each participant. The data analyzed are the values of the Probe Real Ear Insertion Response Curve, which consisted of differences between the Probe Real Ear Unaided Response Curve and the Probe Real Ear Aided Response Curve and the corresponding values repeated while the subject vocalized the letter "EE". The two differences may be called the Insertion Effect and the Occlusion Effect. Values were given at 79 frequencies (200 Hz to 8000 Hz at increments of 100 Hz).
- [38] Analysis of variance models were run for each frequency. Comparisons were adjusted for Subject variability, Order of Test, and Previous Device. The experimental error ranged over approximately 5-11 DB for the Insertion Effect and over approximately 3-8 DB for the Occlusion Effect.
- [39] Comparison results are given in the following tables. Results are given for each frequency. T-values greater than 2.444 in absolute value are included in Table 1. T-values less than 2.444 values are not to be construed as statistically insignificant simply because thay are omitted from Table 1. Negative values indicate that the Insertion Effect or Occlusion Effect was greater for the Comparison Device compared to the Vivatone Device. Positive values indicate that the Insertion Effect or Occlusion Effect was greater for the Vivatone Device compared to the Comparison Device.
- [40] The following table summarizes the comparisons at each frequency. Table values are positive or negative decibel differences. As may be seen from the tables, the Vivatone Device exhibits lower Insertion Effect across the range of frequencies as compared with the comparison devices. Indeed, it has been found that the Vivatone Device exhibits less than three decibels of

insertion loss across the audible spectrum. Also, with exception of the Oticon Device in the 500Hz to 1300Hz range, the Vivatone device exhibits lower Occlusion Effect across the range of frequencies as compared with the comparison devices.

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF COMPARISONS

	Insertion Effect			Occlusion Effect		
	G vs. V	O vs. V	S vs. V	G vs. V	O vs. V	S vs. V
200 Hz			-28.99			-8.49
300	-		-30.56		-	-7.92
400			-31.14			-7.37
500			-31.32		+6.57	-7.76
600			-31.74		+9.21	-7.89
700			-32.60		+11.11	-8.40
800			-33.49	l	+11.64	-8.78
900		-	-34.11		+10.63	-8.82
1000			-34.83		+8.72	-9.08
1100			-34.78		+6.89	-9.96
1200		-	-34.56		+6.32	-10.39
1300		-7.51	-35.38		+5.32	-11.09
1400		-9.01	-36.61			-13.28
1500	•	-10.52	-37.15			-14.66

	-11.47	-37.44			-15.02
	-12.37	-37.60			-15.04
	-13.49	-37.72			-16.76
	-14.87	-38.18			-18.98
	-16.20	-38.48			-20.61
	-17.24	-38.52		-6.98	-22.09
-6.88	-18.09	-38.29		-9.35	-23.23
-7.70	-18.77	-38.02		-11.71	-24.65
-8.49	-19.35	-37.57	-6.91	-14.08	-26.09
-9.21	-19.82	-36.83	-7.89	-15.51	-26.73
-9.67	-20.14	-35.83	-8.04	-15.52	-25.94
-9.84	-20.29	-34.44	-7.61	-14.96	-24.63
-9.86	-20.28	-33.03	-7.51	-14.66	-23.71
-9.86	-20.15	-31.52	-7.54	-14.36	-23.26
-9.79	-20.02	-30.26	-7.48	-14.06	-22.09
-9.66	-19.90	-28.93	-7.06	-13.56	-20.71
-9.51	-19.81	-27.73	-7.16	-13.49	-19.07
		Insertion Effect		Occlusion Effect	
G vs. V	O vs. V	S vs. V	G vs. V	O vs. V	S vs. V
-9.28	-19.66	-26.57	-7.31	-13.46	-17.75
-9.07	-19.56	-25.57	-7.23	-13.07	-16.73
	-7.70 -8.49 -9.21 -9.67 -9.84 -9.86 -9.86 -9.79 -9.66 -9.51 G vs. V -9.28	-12.37 -13.49 -14.87 -16.20 -17.24 -6.88 -18.09 -7.70 -18.77 -8.49 -19.35 -9.21 -19.82 -9.67 -20.14 -9.84 -20.29 -9.86 -20.28 -9.86 -20.28 -9.86 -19.90 -9.51 -19.81 Insertion Effe	-12.37 -37.60  -13.49 -37.72  -14.87 -38.18  -16.20 -38.48  -17.24 -38.52  -6.88 -18.09 -38.29  -7.70 -18.77 -38.02  -8.49 -19.35 -37.57  -9.21 -19.82 -36.83  -9.67 -20.14 -35.83  -9.84 -20.29 -34.44  -9.86 -20.28 -33.03  -9.86 -20.15 -31.52  -9.79 -20.02 -30.26  -9.66 -19.90 -28.93  -9.51 -19.81 -27.73  Insertion Effect  G vs. V O vs. V S vs. V  -9.28 -19.66 -26.57	-12.37 -37.60  -13.49 -37.72  -14.87 -38.18  -16.20 -38.48  -17.24 -38.52  -6.88 -18.09 -38.29  -7.70 -18.77 -38.02  -8.49 -19.35 -37.57 -6.91  -9.21 -19.82 -36.83 -7.89  -9.67 -20.14 -35.83 -8.04  -9.84 -20.29 -34.44 -7.61  -9.86 -20.28 -33.03 -7.51  -9.86 -20.15 -31.52 -7.54  -9.79 -20.02 -30.26 -7.48  -9.66 -19.90 -28.93 -7.06  -9.51 -19.81 -27.73 -7.16  Insertion Effect  G vs. V O vs. V S vs. V G vs. V  -9.28 -19.66 -26.57 -7.31	-12.37 -37.60  -13.49 -37.72  -14.87 -38.18  -16.20 -38.48  -17.24 -38.52 -6.98  -6.88 -18.09 -38.29 -9.35  -7.70 -18.77 -38.02 -11.71  -8.49 -19.35 -37.57 -6.91 -14.08  -9.21 -19.82 -36.83 -7.89 -15.51  -9.67 -20.14 -35.83 -8.04 -15.52  -9.84 -20.29 -34.44 -7.61 -14.96  -9.86 -20.28 -33.03 -7.51 -14.66  -9.86 -20.15 -31.52 -7.54 -14.36  -9.79 -20.02 -30.26 -7.48 -14.06  -9.66 -19.90 -28.93 -7.06 -13.56  -9.51 -19.81 -27.73 -7.16 -13.49  Insertion Effect Occlusion Eff  G vs. V O vs. V S vs. V G vs. V O vs. V  -9.28 -19.66 -26.57 -7.31 -13.46

3500	-8.91	-19.45	-24.82	-7.37	-12.90	-15.77
3600	-8.69	-19.34	-24.16	-6.96	-12.01	-14.66
3700	-8.58	-19.31	-23.74	-6.53	-11.36	-13.51
3800	-8.44	-19.34	-23.46	-6.28	-10.75	-12.41
3900	-8.27	-19.37	-23.23	-6.05	-9.99	-11.55
4000	-8.09	-19.28	-23.03	-5.47	-9.21	-10.84
4100	-7.88	-19.27	-22.69	-5.23	-8.37	-10.11
4200	-7.65	-19.21	-22.26	-5.11	-7.56	-9.52
4300	-7.39	-19.18	-21.77	-4.90	-6.78	-8.75
4400	-7.15	-19.24	-21.18	-4.87	-6.07	-8.16
4500	-6.85	-19.34	-20.58	-4.95	-5.52	-7.89
4600	-6.54	-19.37	-19.95	-4.58	-4.86	-7.36
4700	-6.25	-19.49	-19.32	-4.28	-4.32	-6.82
4800	-5.95	-19.33	-18.65	-3.64	-3.69	-6.10
4900	-5.70	-19.10	-18.04	-3.01	-3.04	-5.42
5000	-5.42	-18.71	-17.37		-2.58	-4.73
5100	-5.13	-18.18	-16.68			-4.30
5200	-4.85	-17.48	-15.99			-3.74
5300	-4.64	-16.81	-15.43			-3.32
5400		-16.01	-14.83			-3.14
5500		-15.18	-14.40			-3.05
	l	I	l			

5600		-14.42	-14.20			-2.76
5700		-13.57	-14.19			-2.82
5800		-12.90	-14.30		-	-3.04
5900		-12.24	-14.66			-3.09
6000		-11.64	-15.01			-2.87
6100		-11.03	-15.24			-2.84
6200		-10.50	-15.60			-2.62
6300		-9.93	-15.85			
6400		-9.47	-16.12			
6500		-9.04	-16.43			-2.53
6600		-8.68	-16.76			-2.75
6700		-8.40	-17.02	-2.41		-2.93
6800		-8.14	-17.38	-2.50		-3.00
6900		-7.86	-17.57	-2.94		-3.20
7000	-5.37	-7.62	-17.64	-3.10		-3.04
7100	-5.98	-7.41	-17.93	-2.93		-2.85
7200	-6.54	-7.29	-18.20	-2.85		-2.98
		Insertion Effe	ect	C	Colusion Eff	ect
	G vs. V	O vs. V	S vs. V	G vs. V	O vs. V	S vs. V
7300	-6.76	-7.08	-18.29	-2.83		-3.10
7400	-6.83	-6.91	-18.37			-2.88

7500	-6.67	-6.68	-18.48	-2.78
7600	-6.45	-6.52	-18.43	-2.58
7700	-6.18	-6.29	-18.28	
7800	-6.06	-6.19	-18.22	
7900	-6.01	-6.17	-18.20	
8000	-5.99	-6.23	-18.25	

# TABLE 2. RESULTS AT 200Hz

### 200 Hz

### Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value	
X1	-3.228805324 <sup>-</sup>	2.8128462	-1.147878383	(General vs. Vivatone)
Х2	-3.973763109	2.6132138	-1.520642189	(Oticon vs. Vivatone)
х3	-28.990360956	2.6890912	-10.780728129	(Sebotek vs. Vivatone)

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -1.76124202 2.3527289 -0.74859539
X2 3.03270998 2.1857518 1.38749056
X3 -8.48537631 2.2492174 -3.77259056

# TABLE 3. RESULTS AT 300Hz

### 300 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

```
X1 -3.259075564 2.9386512 -1.109037917
```

X2 -3.984400433 2.7300902 -1.459439139

X3 -30.557774712 2.8093612 -10.877125620

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.34258739 2.4706214 -0.54342093

X2 3.70308746 2.2952773 1.61335081

X3 -7.91842555 2.3619231 -3.35253321

# TABLE 4. RESULTS AT 400Hz

#### 400 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.18071721 2.9913629 -1.06330036

X2 -3.71440204 2.7790608 -1.33656738

X3 -31.13784296 2.8597538 -10.88829507

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -0.97685416 2.5694950 -0.3801736

X2 4.68242198 2.3871337 1.9615248

X3 -7.36959617 2.4564466 -3.00010500 Hz

# TABLE 5. RESULTS AT 500Hz

#### 500Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.06639030 3.0294176 -1.01220456

X2 -3.35011711 2.8144148 -1.19034237

X3 -31.31511356 2.8961342 -10.81272859

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -0.42304814 2.5993905 -0.16274897

X2 6.57442272 2.4149074 2.72243260

X3 -7.76226106 2.4850268 -3.12361260

# TABLE 6. RESULTS AT 600Hz

### 600 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.8099533318 3.1302318 -0.897682188

X2 -2.9480594700 2.9080740 -1.013749811

 $X3 \ -31.7421838724 \ \ 2.9925130 \ -10.607200022$ 

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 1.04164510 2.4705285 0.4216284

X2 9.21450274 2.2951910 4.0146998

X3 -7.89446530 2.3618343 -3.3425145

# TABLE 7. RESULTS AT 700Hz

# 700 Hz

# Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
X1	-2.588272854	3.2245678	-0.80267279
Х2	-2.847366146	2.9957148	-0.95047970
х3	-32.604172820	3.0826986	-10.57650368

# Occlusion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
X1	1.889389684	2.2700032	0.83232909
X2	11.110529893	2.1088973	5.26840739
Х3	-8.402816196	2.1701313	-3.87203123

# TABLE 8. RESULTS AT 800Hz

### 800 Hz

# Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Хl	-2.515782392	3.3207934	-0.757584738
Х2	-3.398601005	3.0851111	-1.101613808
х3	-33.491112358	3.1746906	-10.549409992

#### Occlusion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Х1	1.82698457	2.2246681	0.8212392
Х2	11.63631424	2.0667796	5.6301669

X3 -8.77668112 2.1267908 -4.1267252

# TABLE 9. RESULTS AT 900Hz

#### 900 Hz

# Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Х1	-2.38554234	3.3949516	-0.70267345
Х2	-4.09229805	3.1540062	-1.29749208
Х3	-34.11309345	3.2455861	-10.51061120

# Occlusion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
X1	1.92054270	2.1612333	0.88863274
X2	10.62901086	2.0078470	5.29373549
хз	-8.81972030	2.0661469	-4.26868009

# TABLE 10. RESULTS AT 1000Hz

# 1000 Hz

### Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Х1	-2.275590447	3.3148820	-0.686477055
Х2	-4.883197416	3.0796193	-1.585649707
х3	-34.827767987	3.1690393	-10.990008326

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

	X1	1.90850033	2.0273877	0.94135935
--	----	------------	-----------	------------

X2 8.71736528 1.8835006 4.62827855

X3 -9.08163181 1.9381900 -4.68562518

# TABLE 11. RESULTS AT 1100Hz

# 1100 Hz

# Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
х1	-2.156384500	3.2283746	-0.66794743
Х2	-6.075641257	2.9992514	-2.02571923
х3	-34.777147774	3.0863378	-11.26809495

### Occlusion Effect

•	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Х1	0.652209894	1.9516141	0.33418998
Х2	6.892687975	1.8131048	3.80159378
х3	-9.956084782	1.8657502	-5.33623669

# TABLE 12. RESULTS AT 1200Hz

### 1200 Hz

### Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Хı	-1.585101698	3.1910179	-0.496738573
Х2	-6.880732089	2.9645460	-2.321006989
х3	-34.561124381	3.0506248	-11.329195525

### Occlusion Effect

Value St	d.Error	t.value
----------	---------	---------

X1 0.1712529167 1.9293266 0.088763052

X2 6.3227648043 1.7923991 3.527543026

X3 -10.3896722765 1.8444433 -5.632958487

# TABLE 13. RESULTS AT 1300Hz

#### 1300 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value	Std.Error	t.value
-------	-----------	---------

X1 -1.1981154661 3.1078549 -0.385512034

X2 -7.5105809960 2.8872852 -2.601260486

X3 -35.3762012491 2.9711206 -11.906686397

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 1.2358134856 1.8298857 0.675350090

X2 5.3236175161 1.7000157 3.131510866

X3 -11.0905638474 1.7493774 -6.339720527

# TABLE 14. RESULTS AT 1400Hz

#### 1400 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.643093468 3.2026055 -0.51304897

```
X2 -9.006829511 2.9753112 -3.02718902
```

X3 -36.606739445 3.0617025 -11.95633446

#### Occlusion Effect

t	.value	
	t	t.value

X1 1.218719994 1.7929210 0.67973995

X2 3.569212245 1.6656744 2.14280315

X3 -13.277066609 1.7140390 -7.74607050

# TABLE 15. RESULTS AT 1500Hz

### 1500 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
х1	-2.004330563	3.3559284	-0.597250692
Х2	-10.520911903	3.1177525	-3.374517947 ·
ХЗ	-37 149067713	3 2082798	-11.579123521

#### Occlusion Effect

t.value	Std.Error	Value	
0.81755941	1.9150221	1.565644363	х1
1.70720543	1.7791098	3.037305910	X2
-8.00822785	1.8307681	-14.661208291	х3

# TABLE 16. RESULTS AT 1600Hz

#### 1600 Hz

### Insertion Effect

# Express Mail Label No. EV 402808649 US

### NHS-0010

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.951098286 3.2915707 -0.59275600

X2 -11.474827775 3.0579624 -3.75244240

X3 -37.443659502 3.1467536 -11.89913947

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 2.19998543 2.0883350 1.05346387

X2 2.69222085 1.9401223 1.38765520

X3 -15.01898313 1.9964558 -7.52282265

### TABLE 17. RESULTS AT 1700Hz

### 1700 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.09200068 3.1519854 -0.66370887

X2 -12.37275620 2.9282837 -4.22525864

X3 -37.59666754 3.0133095 -12.47686870

### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 2.296444502 2.1572750 1.06451169

X2 2.044449766 2.0041696 1.02009817

X3 -15.035410954 2.0623628 -7.29038120

# TABLE 18. RESULTS AT 1800Hz

#### 1800 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.7841781655 3.0546323 -0.911460998

X2 -13.4911317442 2.8378399 -4.754014423

X3 -37.7204275127 2.9202396 -12.916894941

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 1.299973079 2.2825012 0.56953884
X2 0.228669495 2.1205082 0.10783712
...
X3 -16.763530564 2.1820794 -7.68236495

### TABLE 19. RESULTS AT 1900Hz

#### 1900 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.92267763 2.9833070 -1.31487560

X2 -14.86697694 2.7715767 -5.36408636

X3 -38.18257655 2.8520524 -13.38775431

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -0.445001551 2.4921416 -0.17856191

X2 -2.149696858 2.3152701 -0.92848642

X3 -18.984168789 2.3824964 -7.96818358

# TABLE 20. RESULTS AT 2000Hz

#### 2000 Hz

# Insertion Effect

t.value	Std.Error	Value	
-1.755723078	2.8884821	-5.07137477	х1
-6.035418726	2.6834817	-16.19593588	X2
-13.934687726	2.7613994	-38.47923896	х3

# Occlusion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Х1	-1.85628537	2.4314096	-0.76346057
X2	-4.57822019	2.2588484	-2.02679391
Х3	-20.60848494	2.3244365	-8.86601350

# TABLE 21. RESULTS AT 2100Hz

### 2100 Hz

### Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Х1	-6.05449479	2.8084770	-2.15579289
Х2	-17.24123089	2.6091547	-6.60797572
Х3	-38.52172601	2.6849143	-14.34746975

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

# Express Mail Label No. EV 402808649 US

# NHS-0010

```
X1 -2.98680095 2.4258921 -1.2312176
```

X2 -6.98416480 2.2537225 -3.0989462

X3 -22.09045009 2.3191617 -9.5251876

# TABLE 22. RESULTS AT 2200Hz

#### 2200 Hz

### Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Х1	-6.880641275	2.7399735	-2.51120723
Х2	-18.094100656	2.5455130	-7.10823348
хз	-38.294583408	2.6194246	-14.61946370

### Occlusion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Х1	-4.04732286	2.3505212	-1.72188312
Х2	-9.35005881	2.1837008	-4.28174902
хз	-23 23487105	2.2471069	-10.33990481

# TABLE 23. RESULTS AT 2300Hz

#### 2300 Hz

### Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Хı	-7.702143365	2.7076991	-2.84453441
Х2	-18.774332728	2.5155292	-7.46337303
v 2	_20 024411656	2 5005702	_1/ 6003/005

# Occlusion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
X1	-5.220130253	2.2482925	-2.32181990
Х2	-11.708355563	2.0887274	-5.60549718
УZ	-24 646487441	2 1493758	-11.46681163

# TABLE 24. RESULTS AT 2400Hz

# 2400 Hz

### Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
Хl	-8.486673413	2.6869395	-3.15849066
Х2	-19.349755107	2.4962429	-7.75155131
х3	-37.572817183	2.5687240	-14.62703571

# Occlusion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
X1	-6.906049894	2.1583519	-3.199686766
X2	-14.081049900	2.0051700	-7.022372074
xз	-26.086046643	2.0633922	-12.642311144

# TABLE 25. RESULTS AT 2500Hz

#### 2500 Hz

# Insertion Effect

	Value	Std.Error	t.value
X1	-9.210748358	2.6528782	-3.471983194
Х2	-19.817120519	2.4645989	-8.040708038

X3 -36.833570981 2.5361612 -14.523355801 ·

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.8887912841 2.1296325 -3.704296963

X2 -15.5096824184 1.9784889 -7.839155515

X3 -26.7269510910 2.0359364 -13.127596011

### TABLE 26. RESULTS AT 2600Hz

#### 2600 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -9.66555736 2.6025828 -3.71383279

X2 -20.13716999 2.4178731 -8.32846424

X3 -35.82550481 2.4880786 -14.39886359

### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -8.039373e+000 2.0445271 -3.9321428795

X2 -1.552271e+001 1.8994236 -8.1723244632

X3 -2.594425e+001 1.9545753 -13.2736008791

# TABLE 27. RESULTS AT 2700Hz

# 2700 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

# Express Mail Label No. EV 402808649 US

# NHS-0010

```
X1 -9.8422402627 2.4996242 -3.937488045
```

X2 -20.2943035971 2.3222216 -8.739175965

X3 -34.4411171164 2.3896498 -14.412621118

### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.613859887 1.9209320 -3.963627961

X2 -14.957610998 1.7846003 -8.381490995

X3 -24.625003741 1.8364180 -13.409258493

### TABLE 28. RESULTS AT 2800Hz

#### 2800 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -9.86365196 2.3996114 -4.1105206

X2 -20.27641387 2.2293069 -9.0953891

X3 -33.03347336 2.2940372 -14.3997113

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.50588772 1.8590431 -4.0375006

X2 -14.65670749 1.7271037 -8.4862926

X3 -23.70698104 1.7772520 -13.3391220

### TABLE 29. RESULTS AT 2900Hz

#### 2900 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -9.86079168 2.2699771 -4.34400497

X2 -20.15133560 2.1088730 -9.55549987

X3 -31.52307174 2.1701063 -14.52604933

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.543366871 1.8062716 -4.17620855

X2 -14.359771755 1.6780775 -8.55727583

X3 -23.256473650 1.7268022 -13.46794292

# TABLE 30. RESULTS AT 3000Hz

### 3000 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -9.7856477447 2.1508276 -4.549712685

X2 -20.0236465366 1.9981798 -10.020943400

X3 -30.2576796218 2.0561990 -14.715345668

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.47719814 1.74153648 -4.29344904

X2 -14.06177565 1.61793672 -8.69117777

X3 -22.09160667 1.66491522 -13.26890791

# TABLE 31. RESULTS AT 3100Hz

#### 3100 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -9.664299909 2.0441730 -4.727730813
X2 -19.902779737 1.8990947 -10.480140962
X3 -28.927085690 1.9542369 -14.802241273

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.058142664 1.68138544 -4.197813587

X2 -13.560497213 1.56205470 -8.681192285

X3 -20.712909615 1.60741060 -12.885885895

### TABLE 32. RESULTS AT 3200Hz

#### 3200 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -9.510894160 1.9521516 -4.87200583

X2 -19.806347612 1.8136042 -10.92098708

X3 -27.726410309 1.8662641 -14.85663835

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -7.163145949 1.64523049 -4.353885967
X2 -13.488540806 1.52846573 -8.824889289

X3 -19.070659369 1.57284634 -12.124934858

### TABLE 33. RESULTS AT 3300Hz

#### 3300 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -9.2786068378 1.8838049 -4.925460512

X2 -19.6593344393 1.7501081 -11.233211221

X3 -26.5719530600 1.8009244 -14.754619026

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.31237040 1.66005982 -4.40488366

X2 -13.45522787 1.54224259 -8.72445614

X3 -17.74897246 1.58702323 -11.18381389

### TABLE 34. RESULTS AT 3400Hz

### 3400 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -9.066209111 1.8323300 -4.94791271
X2 -19.556815995 1.7022865 -11.48855723
X3 -25.574072634 1.7517142 -14.59945508

### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.23388315 1.70948608 -4.2316128

X2 -13.07226920 1.58816098 -8.2310731

X3 -16.72753874 1.63427491 -10.2354498

### TABLE 35. RESULTS AT 3500Hz

### 3500 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -8.91013789 1.7886133 -4.98158981

X2 -19.45460034 1.6616724 -11.70784323

X3 -24.81692370 1.7099208 -14.51349273

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.3687376481 1.76527541 -4.174270831

X2 -12.8957066864 1.63999085 -7.863279640

X3 -15.7692838620 1.68760971 -9.344153291

### TABLE 36. RESULTS AT 3600Hz

### 3600 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -8.691367288 1.7763295 -4.89288013

X2 -19.342423503 1.6502604 -11.72083106

X3 -24.157524195 1.6981775 -14.22555931

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.962227987 1.76558948 -3.94328809

X2 -12.008873432 1.64028264 -7.32122206

X3 -14.662004950 1.68790997 -8.68648519

### TABLE 37. RESULTS AT 3700Hz

#### 3700 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -8.583079332 1.76270385 -4.86926908

X2 -19.313847560 1.63760180 -11.79398287

X3 -23.737175524 1.68515129 -14.08607978

### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.5337475500 1.74265157 -3.749313783

X2 -11.3626632173 1.61897267 -7.018440431

X3 -13.5120469265 1.66598124 -8.110563666

# TABLE 38. RESULTS AT 3800Hz

#### 3800 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -8.441467426 1.75635543 -4.80624097

X2 -19.336107428 1.63170394 -11.85025478

X3 -23.463879959 1.67908218 -13.97422961

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.278133968 1.68496687 -3.72596880

X2 -10.754862789 1.56538194 -6.87044005

X3 -12.412324737 1.61083445 -7.70552474

# TABLE 39. RESULTS AT 3900Hz

#### 3900 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -8.270799727 1.76899901 -4.67541231

X2 -19.372231987 1.64345018 -11.78753833

X3 -23.226956475 1.69116949 -13.73425708

### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.04925683 1.66204356 -3.6396500

. X2 -9.99092084 1.54408554 -6.4704452

X3 -11.55100361 1.58891969 -7.2697215

### TABLE 40. RESULTS AT 4000Hz

# 4000 Hz

### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -8.086843450 1.72954953 -4.67569348

X2 -19.275861670 1.60680050 -11.99642501

X3 -23.027648032 1.65345564 -13.92698265

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.468606286 1.53347467 -3.56615364

X2 -9.213260489 1.42464140 -6.46707337

X3 -10.842963904 1.46600737 -7.39625472

## TABLE 41. RESULTS AT 4100Hz

#### 4100 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.881860321 1.70361988 -4.62653695

X2 -19.265070702 1.58271112 -12.17219647

X3 -22.687028158 1.62866680 -13.92981556

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.234017037 1.44847923 -3.613456733

X2 -8.367227067 1.34567823 -6.217851237

X3 -10.113523797 1.38475142 -7.303494094

# TABLE 42. RESULTS AT 4200Hz

#### 4200 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.650776971 1.67932983 -4.55585129

X2 -19.207194367 1.56014498 -12.31115996

X3 -22.260182017 1.60544543 -13.86542428

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.1074935588 1.37868912 -3.704601341

X2 -7.5586894898 1.28084124 -5.901347685

X3 -9.5194610061 1.31803181 -7.222481964

# TABLE 43. RESULTS AT 4300Hz

#### 4300 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -7.390373789 1.65707945 -4.45987897

X2 -19.182103586 1.53947374 -12.46016937

X3 -21.767082631 1.58417398 -13.74033587

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -4.8960648158 1.30757620 -3.744382017
X2 -6.7790754700 1.21477533 -5.580517913

X3 -8.7460200811 1.25004761 -6.996549598

## TABLE 44. RESULTS AT 4400Hz

#### 4400 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -7.146230694 1.63780680 -4.36329284
X2 -19.243600045 1.52156891 -12.64720903

X3 -21.178776976 1.56574926 -13.52628895

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -4.87065603 1.25303258 -3.88709449
X2 -6.06657954 1.16410275 -5.21137805
X3 -8.16174608 1.19790370 -6.81335742

# TABLE 45. RESULTS AT 4500Hz

# 4500 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.847453349 1.63031020 -4.20009231

X2 -19.340813305 1.51460436 -12.76954819

X3 -20.581624580 1.55858249 -13.20534829

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.952060307 1.20193410 -4.12007640

X2 -5.516111259 1.11663082 -4.93995971

X3 -7.888428986 1.14905337 -6.86515456

# TABLE 46. RESULTS AT 4600Hz

#### 4600 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.536781665 1.63166742 -4.00619732

X2 -19.370563786 1.51586525 -12.77855257

X3 -19.946411210 1.55987999 -12.78714471

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.583931130 1.20319291 -3.80980565

X2 -4.866591929 1.11780029 -4.35372220

X3 -7.363325177 1.15025680 -6.40146201

## TABLE 47. RESULTS AT 4700Hz

## 4700 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.247439739 1.64057349 -3.80808282

X2 -19.485709545 1.52413924 -12.78473056

X3 -19.320813101 1.56839423 -12.31884990

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.277111412 1.20635740 -3.54547616

X2 -4.319781388 1.12074019 -3.85440034

X3 -6.818258071 1.15328207 -5.91204726

# TABLE 48. RESULTS AT 4800Hz

#### 4800 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.9496237669 1.65009622 -3.605622326

X2 -19.3341460166 1.53298612 -12.612081555

X3 -18.6504311493 1.57749799 -11.822792342

#### Occlusion Effect .

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.63533451 1.19702245 -3.03698108

X2 -3.68529686 1.11206776 -3.31391396

X3 -6.10429061 1.14435781 -5.33424995

# TABLE 49. RESULTS AT 4900Hz

#### 4900 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.69900795 1.67201132 -3.40847449

X2 -19.09922740 1.55334588 -12.29554066

X3 -18.04055946 1.59844891 -11.28629094

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.007209843 1.15216066 -2.61006121

X2 -3.037454396 1.07038989 -2.83770842

X3 -5.416608544 1.10146978 -4.91761883

# TABLE 50. RESULTS AT 5000Hz

#### 5000 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.42096921 1.69550964 -3.19725060

X2 -18.70751384 1.57517648 -11.87645583

X3 -17.36767314 1.62091338 -10.71474474

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.649642968 1.11875070 -2.36839447

X2 -2.583699149 1.03935109 -2.48587718

X3 -4.726811994 1.06952974 -4.41952366

# TABLE 51. RESULTS AT 5100Hz

# 5100 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.12838471 1.72005712 -2.98152000

X2 -18.18322864 1.59798178 -11.37887104

X3 -16.68033428 1.64438087 -10.14383871

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.350640296 1.06203444 -2.21333717

X2 -2.222199512 0.98666007 -2.25224428

X3 -4.297318170 1.01530879 -4.23252337

## TABLE 52. RESULTS AT 5200Hz

#### 5200 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.846893396 1.73104035 -2.79998868

X2 -17.483734536 1.60818552 -10.87171496

X3 -15.991399029 1.65488088 -9.66317230

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.863905114 1.02038103 -1.82667559

X2 -1.588450835 0.94796287 -1.67564667

X3 -3.737920520 0.97548797 -3.83184685

# TABLE 53. RESULTS AT 5300Hz

#### 5300 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.635811384 1.74762530 -2.65263463

X2 -16.806580187 1.62359340 -10.35147110

X3 -15.434734844 1.67073615 -9.23828390

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.55178690 0.94658159 -1.6393588

X2 -1.11156094 0.87940111 -1.2639977

X3 -3.32312975 0.90493544 -3.6722285

# TABLE 54. RESULTS AT 5400Hz

#### 5400 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.296048437 1.76786473 -2.430077577

X2 -16.007405575 1.64239640 -9.746371538

X3 -14.827069029 1.69008511 -8.772971794

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.357632686 0.92688227 -1.46473044

X2 -1.085022430 0.86109989 -1.26004247

X3 -3.141020167 0.88610283 -3.54475809

# TABLE 55. RESULTS AT 5500Hz

## 5500 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -4.040537444 1.7891974 -2.258296111
X2 -15.177478550 1.6622150 -9.130875559
X3 -14.401720605 1.7104792 -8.419699405

#### · Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -1.172678260 0.90954444 -1.28930287
X2 -1.124977061 0.84499255 -1.33134554
X3 -3.053792404 0.86952779 -3.51201241

# TABLE 56. RESULTS AT 5600Hz

## 5600 Hz

## Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.842925160 1.8254446 -2.10519960

X2 -14.418027712 1.6958897 -8.50174849

X3 -14.202779253 1.7451316 -8.13851454

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -0.949080983 0.92183414 -1.02955721

X2 -0.951847054 0.85641002 -1.11143848

X3 -2.755459070 0.88127679 -3.12666701

# TABLE 57. RESULTS AT 5700Hz

#### 5700 Hz

## Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.696893582 1.8553649 -1.99254262

X2 -13.570943809 1.7236865 -7.87320879

X3 -14.186977436 1.7737356 -7.99836104

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -0.981408120 0.94246447 -1.04132108

X2 -1.137744866 0.87557619 -1.29942417

X3 -2.818453141 0.90099947 -3.12814075

## TABLE 58. RESULTS AT 5800Hz

#### 5800 Hz

## Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.485335327 1.9118784 -1.82299003

X2 -12.900093591 1.7761892 -7.26279241

X3 -14.302358724 1.8277627 -7.82506305

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.43215721 0.99833534 -1.4345452

X2 -1.30174219 0.92748180 -1.4035232

X3 -3.03832890 0.95441221 -3.1834556

# TABLE 59. RESULTS AT 5900Hz

#### 5900 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.470882999 1.9551480 -1.77525331

X2 -12.237829059 1.8163879 -6.73745358

X3 -14.656469432 1.8691286 -7.84133809

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.570601603 1.01546928 -1.54667564

X2 -1.143278073 0.94339973 -1.21187026

X3 -3.089089793 0.97079233 -3.18202946

## TABLE 60. RESULTS AT 6000Hz

#### 6000 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.505504506 1.9935030 -1.75846459

X2 -11.643669192 1.8520208 -6.28700782

X3 -15.008307749 1.9057962 -7.87508551

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.4782767934 1.03060693 -1.43437498

X2 -0.9518932129 0.95746303 -0.99418273

X3 -2.8687898427 0.98526398 -2.91169667

# TABLE 61. RESULTS AT 6100Hz

## 6100 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.527926580 2.0085812 -1.75642715

X2 -11.026150510 1.8660288 -5.90888537

X3 -15.238089915 1.9202110 -7.93563327

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.581128817 1.06615246 -1.48302319

X2 -0.690258914 0.99048583 -0.69688924

X3 -2.842076531 1.01924563 -2.78841179

# TABLE 62. RESULTS AT 6200Hz

#### 6200 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.541042894 2.0249469 -1.748709011

```
X2 -10.499983894 1.8812330 -5.581437152
```

X3 -15.602866439 1.9358566 -8.059928816

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.560048975 1.10174868 -1.41597535

X2 -0.553851718 1.02355573 -0.54110558

X3 -2.615469069 1.05327575 -2.48317600

## TABLE 63. RESULTS AT 6300Hz

#### 6300 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.64729645 2.0274164 -1.79898731

X2 -9.92894474 1.8835273 -5.27146316

X3 -15.85389666 1.9382175 -8.17962727

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.38042349 1.09173705 -1.26442854

X2 -0.37261352 1.01425464 -0.36737669

X3 -2.33816761 1.04370459 -2.24025804

## TABLE 64. RESULTS AT 6400Hz

#### 6400 Hz

## Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.72431243 2.0226028 -1.84134638

X2 -9.47118863 1.8790553 -5.04039902

X3 -16.11724147 1.9336157 -8.33528692

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.391813985 1.05689378 -1.31689107

X2 -0.267321456 0.98188426 -0.27225353

X3 -2.187831043 1.01039430 -2.16532401

## TABLE 65. RESULTS AT 6500Hz

#### 6500 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.713274489 2.0281956 -1.83082665

X2 -9.044965698 1.8842511 -4.80029737

X3 -16.426047721 1.9389623 -8.47156616

#### Occlusion Effect .

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.731417523 1.01416531 -1.707234029

X2 -0.548784418 0.94218829 -0.582457266

X3 -2.528227998 0.96954572 -2.607641843

# TABLE 66. RESULTS AT 6600Hz

#### 6600 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value
X1 -3.766690641 2.0267967 -1.85844519
X2 -8.678056381 1.8829516 -4.60875176

X3 -16.764044366 1.9376251 -8.65185156

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.98956391 0.95040501 -2.09338533

X2 -1.10722139 0.88295317 -1.25399786

X3 -2.75192688 0.90859065 -3.02878627

## TABLE 67. RESULTS AT 6700Hz

## 6700 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.014308937 2.0434736 -1.96445358

X2 -8.397504120 1.8984448 -4.42335962

X3 -17.021841498 1.9535682 -8.71320587

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

# Express Mail Label No. EV 402808649 US

# NHS-0010

X1 -2.407488315 0.94010973 -2.5608588

X2 -1.341366154 0.87338857 -1.5358183

X3 -2.928638691 0.89874832 -3.2585749

#### TABLE 68. RESULTS AT 6800Hz

#### 6800 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.354917941 2.0694860 -2.10434760

X2 -8.141998692 1.9226111 -4.23486507

X3 -17.378004698 1.9784362 -8.78370757

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.500115515 0.98440958 -2.5397107

X2 -1.447595547 0.91454438 -1.5828598

X3 -2.996861320 0.94109914 -3.1844268

# TABLE 69. RESULTS AT 6900Hz

# 6900 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -4.748185680 2.1060634 -2.25453122

X2 -7.861928357 1.9565925 -4.01817352

X3 -17.572263041 2.0134043 -8.72763772

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.943078973 1.02579595 -2.8690686

X2 -1.751442140 0.95299349 -1.8378322

X3 -3.203777402 0.98066466 -3.2669449

# TABLE 70. RESULTS AT 7000Hz

## 7000 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.36964885 2.1060878 -2.54958453

X2 -7.62145160 1.9566152 -3.89522250

X3 -17.63774396 2.0134276 -8.76005873

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -3.0958671835 1.09618801 -2.824211866

X2 -1.6347488389 1.01838971 -1.605229143

X3 -3.0436625264 1.04795973 -2.904369750

# TABLE 71. RESULTS AT 7100Hz

#### 7100 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.979052985 2.1484033 -2.78302176

```
X2 -7.409193538 1.9959275 -3.71215570
```

X3 -17.930145965 2.0538813 -8.72988412

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.93400085 1.12940070 -2.59783871

X2 -1.35279652 1.04924523 -1.28930442

X3 -2.84600351 1.07971117 -2.63589335

## TABLE 72. RESULTS AT 7200Hz

#### 7200 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.53523989 2.1790642 -2.9991039

X2 -7.29180932 2.0244124 -3.6019388

X3 -18.20102578 2.0831933 -8.7370797

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.854334671 1.13785077 -2.50853165

X2 -1.261150721 1.05709559 -1.19303375

X3 -2.983604193 1.08778948 -2.74281399

# TABLE 73. RESULTS AT 7300Hz

#### 7300 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

# Express Mail Label No. EV 402808649 US

# NHS-0010

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.75636148 2.2050562 -3.06403143

X2 -7.08463282 2.0485597 -3.45834830

X3 -18.28648048 2.1080417 -8.67462921

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.82929369 1.10910247 -2.55097593

X2 -1.27314769 1.03038760 -1.23560075

X3 -3.10192981 1.06030599 -2.92550437

# TABLE 74. RESULTS AT 7400Hz

#### 7400 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.83076637 2.2407210 -3.04846800

X2 -6.91081533 2.0816933 -3.31980476

X3 -18.37488422 2.1421375 -8.57782685

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.49001160 1.07112286 -2.3246741

X2 -1.25209393 0.99510347 -1.2582550

X3 -2.88266037 1.02399735 -2.8151053

# TABLE 75. RESULTS AT 7500Hz

## 7500 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.665475332 2.2928263 -2.90709996

X2 -6.678922730 2.1301006 -3.13549639

X3 -18.482033551 2.1919503 -8.43177578

## Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -2.14003047 1.05586865 -2.0267961

X2 -1.06587090 0.98093188 -1.0865901

X3 -2.78648541 1.00941427 -2.7604973

# TABLE 76. RESULTS AT 7600Hz

## 7600 Hz

## Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.453321221 2.3169883 -2.785219570

X2 -6.517903336 2.1525478 -3.027994735

X3 -18.428207086 2.2150493 -8.319547271

# Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.81049894 1.05228996 -1.7205324

X2 -0.71468545 0.97760718 -0.7310558

X3 -2.58402589 1.00599303 -2.5686320

## TABLE 77. RESULTS AT 7700Hz

#### 7700 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.176510870 2.3478779 -2.63067809

X2 -6.290253935 2.1812450 -2.88379060

X3 -18.283821601 2.2445798 -8.14576596

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.48510082 1.07347198 -1.3834556

X2 -0.55147183 0.99728587 -0.5529727

X3 -2.27496805 1.02624312 -2.2167925

# TABLE 78. RESULTS AT 7800Hz

#### 7800 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.06108309 2.3716242 -2.55566757

X2 -6.19084626 2.2033061 -2.80979857

X3 -18.21570774 2.2672814 -8.03416280

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.413226227 1.09382747 -1.29200104

X2 -0.491633275 1.01619670 -0.48379736

X3 -2.147169312 1.04570304 -2.05332607

# TABLE 79. RESULTS AT 7900Hz

#### 7900 Hz

#### Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -6.01019067 2.3741523 -2.53151017

X2 -6.17081726 2.2056547 -2.79772587

X3 -18.20382232 2.2696982 -8.02037121

#### Occlusion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -1.116427464 1.12532100 -0.99209689

X2 -0.075233199 1.04545509 -0.07196215

X3 -2.042620033 1.07581097 -1.89867931

# TABLE 80. RESULTS AT 8000Hz

#### 8000 Hz

# Insertion Effect

Value Std.Error t.value

X1 -5.994943790 2.3595836 -2.540678681

X2 -6.231208076 2.1921200 -2.842548786

X3 -18.251784219 2.2557705 -8.091152906

Occlusion Effect

X1 -0.919289912 1.11313021 -0.82586018
X2 0.150751742 1.03412949 0.14577647
X3 -1.869693540 1.06415653 -1.75697229

- [41] While exemplary embodiments have been shown and described, various modifications and substitutions may be made thereto without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. Accordingly, it is to be understood that the present invention has been described by way of illustration and not limitation.
- [42] What is claimed is: